

# Mineral Industry Surveys

---

**For information, contact:**

Patricia A. Plunkert, Aluminum Commodity Specialist  
U.S. Geological Survey  
989 National Center  
Reston, VA 20192  
Telephone: (703) 648-4979, Fax: (703) 648-7757  
E-mail: [pplunker@usgs.gov](mailto:pplunker@usgs.gov)

David Gibson (Data)  
Telephone: (703) 648-7963  
Fax: (703) 648-7975

**Internet:** <http://minerals.usgs.gov/minerals>

## ALUMINUM IN NOVEMBER 2002

The reported domestic primary aluminum production in November was 231,790 metric tons (t). The average daily production rate was 7,726 t, 2% above that of the previous month and 11% higher than the rate for November 2001.

The monthly average U.S. market price of primary aluminum ingot increased from 63.05 cents per pound in October to 66.06 cents per pound in November, according to Platts Metals Week. The American Metal Market buying price range for aluminum used beverage cans (UBCs) fluctuated during the month of November. The price range began the month at 47–49 cents per pound. On November 5, the price range increased to 48.5–50.5 cents per pound, and again on November 15 to 49.5–51.5 cents per pound. On November 26, the price range decreased slightly to 49–51 cents per pound, where it remained through the end of

the month. According to Resource Recycling's Container Recycling Report, the average monthly transaction price for aluminum UBCs increased from 50.4 cents per pound in October to 52.1 cents per pound in November.

### Update

The monthly average U.S. market price of primary aluminum ingot remained essentially unchanged at 66.12 cents per pound in December compared with the November average of 66.06 cents per pound. On December 17, the American Metal Market buying price range for aluminum UBCs increased to 50.0–52.5 cents per pound. On December 23, the price range returned to 49–51 cents per pound, where it remained through the end of the month.

TABLE 1  
COMPONENTS OF ALUMINUM SUPPLY 1/

(Thousand metric tons)

Period	Primary production	Secondary recovery 2/			Imports for consumption			Total new supply 3/	Total stocks, end of period 4/
		New	Old	Total	Metals and alloys, crude	Plates, sheets, bars, etc.	Total		
2001: 5/	2,637	1,770	1,210	2,980	2,560	683	3,240	8,860	1,300
2001:									
November	208	152	106	258	248	57	305	771	1,310
December	205	133	94	227	227	44	271	703	1,300
January-November	2,432	1,750	1,160	2,910	2,330	639	2,970	8,320	16,300
2002:									
January	210	147	102	249	272	58	330	789	1,290
February	197	141	93	234	205	52	257	688	1,270
March	220	153	99	252	223	62	285	757	1,320
April	216	148	96	245	221	65	286	747	1,310
May	228	154	98	252	221	76	297	777	1,280
June	225	150	95	245	263	71	334	805	1,320
July	238	145	100	245	228	74	302	785	1,310
August	237	156	101	257	279	77	356	851	1,340
September	227	157	99	257	235	70	305	788	1,360
October	235	160 r/	102	262 r/	196	67	263	760	1,360
November	232	151	100	251	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
January-November	2,466	1,660	1,090	2,750	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA

r/ Revised. NA Not available.

1/ Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits, except "Primary production"; may not add to totals shown.

2/ Metallic recovery from purchased, tolled, or imported scrap, expanded for full coverage of industry.

3/ Primary production, secondary recovery, and imports for consumption.

4/ Includes scrap; data from the Aluminum Association Inc.

5/ Includes monthly and annual data.

TABLE 2  
ESTIMATED FULL COVERAGE CONSUMPTION OF AND METALLIC RECOVERY FROM PURCHASED NEW AND OLD ALUMINUM SCRAP 1/

(Thousand metric tons)

Period	Secondary smelters		Integrated aluminum companies		Independent mill fabricators		Foundries		Other consumers		Total	
	Con-sump-tion	Metal recovery	Con-sump-tion	Metal recovery	Con-sump-tion	Metal recovery	Con-sump-tion	Metal recovery	Con-sump-tion	Metal recovery	Con-sump-tion	Metal recovery
2001: 2/	1,810	1,350	946	823	765	706	98	88	13	13	3,630	2,980
2001:												
November	171	127	74	64	61	56	10	9	1	1	317	258
December	163	120	62	54	50	46	8	7	(3/)	(3/)	284	227
January-November	1,890	1,410	845	735	727	670	98	89	6	6	3,560	2,910
2002:												
January	150	111	80	69	62	57	11	10	1	1	303	249
February	146	108	69	60	61	56	11	10	1	1	287	234
March	152	113	79	69	64	60	11	10	1	1	307	252
April	150	112	71	62	63	58	13	12	1	1	298	245
May	152	113	73	63	68	63	13	12	(3/)	(3/)	307	252
June	150	112	65	56	70	65	12	11	(3/)	(3/)	298	245
July	149	111	66	56	74	69	9	8	(3/)	(3/)	299	245
August	151	112	76	66	74	69	11	10	(3/)	(3/)	313	257
September	150	112	78	68	72	67	11	10	(3/)	(3/)	311	257
October	151	112	79 r/	68 r/	77	71	11	10	(3/)	(3/)	317 r/	262 r/
November	149	111	75	64	71	66	11	10	(3/)	(3/)	306	251
January-November	1,650	1,230	811	702	756	701	124	112	6	6	3,350	2,750

r/ Revised.

1/ Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

2/ Includes monthly and annual data.

3/ Less than 1/2 unit.

TABLE 3  
CONSUMPTION OF AND RECOVERY FROM PURCHASED  
NEW AND OLD ALUMINUM SCRAP IN NOVEMBER 2002 1/

(Metric tons)

	Consumption		Calculated metallic recovery	
	Tabulated reports	Estimated full coverage	Tabulated reports	Estimated full coverage
Secondary smelters	124,000	149,000	92,200	111,000
Integrated aluminum companies	74,600	74,600	64,300	64,300
Independent mill fabricators	58,800	70,600	54,700	65,600
Foundries	9,140	11,000	8,230	9,870
Other consumers	356	427	356	427
Total	267,000	306,000	220,000	251,000

1/ Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

TABLE 4  
PURCHASED AND TOLL-TREATED ALUMINUM-BASE SCRAP AND SWEATED PIG IN 2002 1/

(Metric tons)

	November			January-November 2/		
	Stocks, opening	Net receipts 3/	Melted or consumed	Stocks, closing	Net receipts 3/	Melted or consumed
New scrap:						
Solids	28,600 r/	76,900	79,600	26,000	858,000	860,000
Can stock clippings	1,690	17,800	17,400	2,040	208,000	209,000
Other clippings	5,570	11,100	11,100	5,570	122,000	123,000
Borings and turnings	4,360	18,800	18,800	4,340	211,000	210,000
Dross and skimmings	2,710	34,300	34,300	2,710	375,000	375,000
Total new scrap	43,000 r/	159,000	161,000	40,600	1,770,000	1,780,000
Old scrap:						
Used casting, sheet, clippings	11,000	32,200	32,000	11,200	360,000	359,000
Aluminum-copper radiators	1,830	2,260	2,230	1,860	25,200	25,300
Used cans (shredded, loose, baled)	35,100 r/	57,800	61,800	31,200	650,000	652,000
Fragmentized shredder (auto shredder)	4,100	8,880	8,880	4,100	97,700	99,200
Total old scrap	52,100 r/	101,000	105,000	48,300	1,130,000	1,140,000
Sweated pig	149	977	977	149	10,800	10,800
Total all classes	95,200 r/	261,000	267,000	89,100	2,920,000	2,920,000

r/ Revised.

1/ Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

2/ Includes revised data from previous month(s).

3/ Includes data on imported aluminum-base scrap.

TABLE 5  
ALUMINUM ALLOYS PRODUCED AT SECONDARY SMELTERS IN THE UNITED STATES FOR 2002 1/ 2/

(Metric tons)

	November				January-November 3/	
	Stocks, opening	Production	Net shipments	Stocks, closing	Production	Net shipments
Die-cast alloys:						
13% Si, 360, etc. (0.6% Cu, max.)	4,630	1,440	1,480	4,590	18,700	18,700
380 and variations	5,570	33,400	33,400	5,560	366,000	365,000
Sand and permanent mold:						
95/5 Al-Si, 356, etc. (0.6% Cu, max.)	3,160	4,120	4,090	3,180	45,000	45,000
No. 319 and variations	9,780	11,100	11,100	9,760	123,000	124,000
F-132 alloy and variations	2,030	1,980	1,980	2,030	21,900	21,800
Al-Zn alloys	630	59	59	630	645	732
Al-Si alloys (0.6% to 2.0% Cu)	91	168	168	91	1,850	1,850
Al-Cu alloys (1.5% Si, max.)	--	191	191	--	2,100	2,100
Other 4/	5,240	8,880	9,090	5,030	103,000	103,000
Wrought alloys:						
Extrusion billets	10,700	17,800	17,800	10,700	192,000	192,000
Total all alloys	41,800	79,100	79,400	41,500	874,000	874,000
Less:						
Primary aluminum consumed	XX	6,760	XX	XX	69,100	XX
Primary silicon consumed	XX	3,650	XX	XX	40,300	XX
Other alloying ingredients consumed	XX	603	XX	XX	6,420	XX
Net metallic recovery from aluminum scrap and sweated pig consumed in production of secondary aluminum ingot 5/	XX	68,100	XX	XX	758,000	XX

XX Not applicable. -- Zero.

1/ Excludes integrated aluminum companies.

2/ Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

3/ Includes revised data from previous month(s).

4/ Includes alloys No. 12, Al-Mg, Al-Si-Cu-Ni, aluminum-base hardeners, variations of these alloys, plus other aluminum alloys.

5/ No allowance made for melt-loss of primary aluminum and alloying ingredients.

TABLE 6  
U.S. IMPORTS FOR CONSUMPTION OF ALUMINUM IN OCTOBER 2002 1/

(Metric tons)

Country	Metals and alloys, crude		Plates, sheets, bars, etc.		Scrap		Total	
	October	January- October	October	January- October	October	January- October	October	January- October
Argentina	9,940	69,500	100	521	--	404	10,000	70,500
Australia	3,890	82,500	16	61	18	125	3,920	82,700
Bahrain	2,590	14,800	1,980	14,900	--	--	4,580	29,700
Belgium	--	(2/)	849	7,800	--	450	849	8,250
Brazil	6,060	31,500	502	1,600	1,730	14,200	8,290	47,300
Canada	137,000	1,350,000	38,500	386,000	26,900	243,000	203,000	1,980,000
France	133	1,090	732	5,230	40	2,980	905	9,300
Germany	528	2,210	4,840	50,700	92	4,600	5,460	57,500
Ghana	--	--	--	--	777	7,730	777	7,730
Hungary	--	--	1,160	7,710	--	--	1,160	7,710
Italy	--	79	101	1,960	--	20	101	2,060
Japan	114	460	594	7,670	--	237	709	8,360
Korea, Republic of	--	3,510	319	4,620	--	99	319	8,230
Mexico	781	4,060	1,420	13,000	6,190	49,100	8,390	66,100
Netherlands	58	386	373	2,340	--	1,570	431	4,290
Norway	17	3,680	22	92	--	--	39	3,770
Russia	20,800	514,000	4,040	52,300	1,020	24,300	25,900	591,000
South Africa	--	15,900	2,690	24,800	--	8	2,690	40,700
Spain	13	600	76	223	--	--	89	823
Sweden	--	4	341	2,550	--	143	341	2,700
Switzerland	918	9,210	313	2,890	--	100	1,230	12,200
Ukraine	--	--	--	20	--	--	--	20
United Arab Emirates	4,370	50,600	--	--	--	623	4,370	51,200
United Kingdom	9	779	522	7,440	301	4,070	832	12,300
Venezuela	6,200	165,000	2,070	17,600	632	6,230	8,900	189,000
Other	1,730	25,900	5,790	59,700	2,770	31,800	10,300	117,000
Total	196,000	2,340,000	67,300	672,000	40,400	392,000	303,000	3,410,000

-- Zero.

1/ Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

2/ Less than 1/2 unit.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

TABLE 7  
U.S. EXPORTS OF ALUMINUM IN OCTOBER 2002 1/

(Metric tons)

Country or territory	Metals and alloys, crude		Plates, sheets, bars, etc.		Scrap		Total	
	October	January- October	October	January- October	October	January- October	October	January- October
Australia	20	109	240	1,540	257	454	517	2,110
Belgium	--	266	331	3,390	--	59	331	3,710
Brazil	1	115	2,200	23,600	2	18	2,200	23,700
Canada	10,300	80,900	39,800	399,000	19,400	178,000	69,500	657,000
China	16	74	1,870	26,200	19,200	163,000	21,100	190,000
Czech Republic	--	(2/)	4	28	--	12	4	41
Dominican Republic	--	35	14	563	--	--	14	598
France	16	99	599	3,960	--	6	614	4,070
Germany	52	1,350	199	2,280	--	207	251	3,830
Hong Kong	16	126	314	3,530	476	6,380	806	10,000
India	--	112	61	244	933	4,350	993	4,710
Israel	1	77	74	1,280	24	28	99	1,390
Italy	--	13	242	1,730	35	39	277	1,780
Japan	144	3,160	469	7,840	1,760	22,000	2,380	33,000
Korea, Republic of	127	580	408	6,660	2,050	38,700	2,580	45,900
Malaysia	1	59	66	519	--	524	67	1,100
Mexico	8,870	81,200	10,600	96,500	5,040	75,800	24,500	254,000
Netherlands	13	95	15	748	216	268	243	1,110
Russia	--	19	--	26	--	9	--	54
Saudi Arabia	--	(2/)	713	13,400	--	--	713	13,400
Singapore	21	186	61	1,940	26	182	109	2,310
Spain	3	58	92	730	--	501	95	1,290
Sweden	--	(2/)	38	586	--	5	38	591
Taiwan	45	214	273	5,530	1,680	22,500	2,000	28,200
Thailand	--	(2/)	532	7,730	80	770	612	8,500
United Kingdom	18	484	989	7,660	50	570	1,060	8,710
Venezuela	1	4	905	6,560	--	1	905	6,560
Other	67	519	1,750	24,600	356	3,580	2,170	28,700
Total	19,800	170,000	62,800	648,000	51,600	518,000	134,000	1,340,000

-- Zero.

1/ Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

2/ Less than 1/2 unit.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.